GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4086
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2000
ADULTERATION OF KEROSENE IN DIESEL AND PETROL
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether approximately 15 lakh tonnes of kerosene is misused to adulterate the diesel and petrol in the country every-year;

(b) if so, whether approximately 2.5 lakh tonnes kerosene oil is stolen during its transportation between depots of oil companies and Public Distribution System shops each month;

(c) if so, whether the Government have conducted any study in regard to theft of kerosene in this way;

(d) if so, the action taken against the persons found invloved in the thefr of kerosene; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to check the adulteration of diesel and petrol with kerosene?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (e) :- The oil marketing companies carry out regular/surprise checks of retail outlets, to prevent various malpractices including adulteration. In addition, special drives are launched by the oil companies both on their own and also under direction of Government from time to time to check malpractices. Further, to prevent adulteration various steps like blue dyeing of kerosene (Public Distribution System), furfural doping, filter paper test, checking of retail outlets by mobile laboratories, etc. are undertaken by the oil companies. Further, to check adulteration the Government have issued two control orders viz. Naphtha (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobile) Order, 2000 and Solvent, Raffinate and Slop (Acquisition, Sale, Storage and Prevention of use in Automobile) Order, 2000.
Kerosene is an allocated product and Central Government allocates SKO to the States/Union Territories on annual basis and same is released on monthly basis. The distribution within the State is responsibility of the concerned State Government. The checking of oil adulteration is a continuous activity of oil companies. To prevent adulteration enroute from supply points to the retail outlets, the marketing companies have taken various steps like improvement in seals, sealing under the direct supervision of an officer at the supply locations, introduction of pilfer proof locking device etc.